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STATE LEGISLATURE, MADRAS

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Monday, the 7th May 1962

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, the Deputy Chairman (SRI V. K. PALANISWAMY GOUNDER) in the Chair.

I.—QUSTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Madras Vanaspati Factory

* 49 *Q.*—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to Legislative Council Question No. 128 on 8th March, 1961—

(*a*) whether the Government have received the annual instalments from the Madras Vanaspati Factory at Villupuram as per agreement; and

(*b*) whether the factory is working?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) The first instalment which fell due on 1st April 1961 has been paid. The second instalment due on 1st April 1962 has not yet been paid.

(*b*) No, Sir.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : May I know, Sir, the total amount due from the firm?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, it is Rs. 8,24,186 towards principal and Rs. 5,58,000 towards interest.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. Minister tell us why the factory is not working?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, it has been closed for a long time. They are renovating it by reconditioning the machinery, etc. They have also applied for high tension electricity power supply. The information that the Government have got is that they will start functioning very soon.

Dharson of Renganadha

* 50 *Q.*—SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any additional fee is collected during festival for dharsan of Renganadha at Srirangam; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(b). This is done partly for the convenience and the regulation of the worshipping public and partly for augmenting the financial resources of the temple.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : புதிதாக எந்தெந்த இடங்களுக்கு எவ்வளவு தொகை போடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, the fees now charged are :—

(1) a fee of one rupee for each session in the morning and evening for entrance into the Santnanu Mantapam when the deity starts and returns to the sanctum sanctorum.

(2) a fee of one rupee for Tirukaithala Sevai, Alwar Moksham and for Ekantha Seena Gana Sevai.

(3) a fee of Rs. 3 and Rs. 2 for Muthangi Sevai in the forenoons of the Ekadasi Day and 2nd and 3rd and 4th days of the festival (in the previous years there was no darshan during the forenoons on these days).

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : விஸ்வரூப தரிசனம் போன்றவைகளுக்குக் கட்டணம் வைத்திருப்பதால், பணம் இல்லாதவர்கள் தரிசனம் செய்ய முடியாமல் சிரமப்படுவது தெரியுமா?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : விஸ்வரூப தரிசனத்திற்குக் கட்டணம் கொடுக்க வேண்டியதில்லை. இந்த வகைகளில் தான கட்டணம் கொடுக்கவேண்டியிருக்கிறது.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Cannot certain hours be allotted during which people could have darshan without paying the fees?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : On other days people are free to go there and no fee is collected.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Are the Government aware that on such festivals as *Muthangi Sevai* and others, there is no *dharma sevai*?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Yes, Sir. For *Muthangi Sevai* this fee is collected. So, those who are not able to pay, cannot go there and have worship during *Muthangi Sevai*.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Cannot the Government allow poor people also in these days of democracy to have *sevai, dharma sevai*, during particular hours allotted during the day or cannot the days be extended and certain days allotted for *dharma sevai* so that the crowd may be less?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Because these are days of democracy, the difficulty arises. I have already said that people come in such large numbers that it will not be possible to regulate the crowd without these restrictions.